



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**VIRGINIA FIELD OFFICE**

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## **Wheat and Oats Production Down Barley Production Up**

According to the USDA/NASS Virginia Field Office, Virginia wheat producers averaged 58 bushels per acre, down from last year's record high yield of 71 bushels per acre. Virginia wheat was grown on 250,000 acres, with 210,000 acres harvested for grain. Wheat production was 12,180,000 bushel, down 39 percent when compared to 2008.

Oat production for the 2009 crop year was 216,000 bushels, down 23 percent from the previous year. Twelve thousand acres were dedicated to oats and 4 thousand harvested for grain, no change from 2008.

Barley growers produced 3.18 million bushels of grain, up 4 percent from last year. Producers averaged 74 bushels per acre, down 11 bushels from 2008. Sixty-seven thousand acres were planted in barley with 43,000 harvested for grain. Data for wheat, barley, and oats were based from survey of producers conducted in early September.

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Cooperating with Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

## US Small Grains 2009 Summary

All wheat: Production totaled 2.22 billion bushels in 2009, up 2 percent from the August forecast but down 11 percent from 2008. Grain area is 50.1 million acres, down 10 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is 44.4 bushels per acre, down 0.5 bushel from last year. The levels of production and changes from last year by type are: winter wheat, 1.52 billion bushels, down 18 percent; other spring wheat, 588 million bushels, up 7 percent; Durum wheat, 110 million bushels, up 31 percent.

Oat production is estimated at 93.3 million bushels, 1 percent above the August forecast and up 5 percent from last year's record low production. Yield is estimated at a record high 67.6 bushels per acre, up 3.1 bushels from the last forecast and up 3.9 bushels from the previous year. Compared with last year, yields increased for most States in the western third of the country and for several Appalachian States. Harvested area, at 1.38 million acres, is 3 percent below August and 2 percent below last year. This is the smallest acreage harvested for grain on record, continuing a steady downward trend.

Barley production is estimated at 227 million bushels, 10 percent above the August forecast but 5 percent below 2008. Average yield per acre, at 72.8 bushels, is up 7.0 bushels from August and 9.2 bushels from last year and is the highest yield on record since estimates began in 1866. Producers seeded 3.57 million acres for 2009, down 2 percent from June and down 16 percent from last year. This is the second lowest planted acreage on record. Harvested area, at 3.12 million acres, is down slightly from August and 17 percent from 2008.

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